

House File 173 - Reprinted

HOUSE FILE _____
BY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
(SUCCESSOR TO HF 52)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act prohibiting false compartments in vehicles for the purpose
2 of intentionally concealing or transporting contraband and
3 providing penalties.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
5 TLSB 1684HV 81
6 dea/sh/8

PAG LIN

1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 733.1 FALSE COMPARTMENTS IN
1 2 VEHICLES == PROHIBITED.
1 3 1. A person shall not possess, use, or control a false
1 4 compartment with the intent to store, conceal, smuggle, or
1 5 transport contraband within the false compartment. A
1 6 violation of this subsection is a serious misdemeanor.
1 7 2. A person shall not construct, build, alter, or
1 8 fabricate a false compartment for, or install or attach a
1 9 false compartment to, a vehicle with the intent to store,
1 10 conceal, smuggle, or transport contraband within the false
1 11 compartment. A violation of this subsection is a serious
1 12 misdemeanor.
1 13 3. A certified peace officer, while investigating a
1 14 violation of this section in the performance of the officer's
1 15 official duties, or any person working under a certified peace
1 16 officer's immediate direction, supervision, or instruction
1 17 pursuant to that investigation, is not subject to prosecution
1 18 under this section.
1 19 4. For purposes of this section, the following definitions
1 20 apply:
1 21 a. "Contraband" means property which is procured during
1 22 the commission of an act which is punishable as a felony, or
1 23 property the possession of which is punishable as a felony.
1 24 "Contraband" may include but is not limited to stolen
1 25 property, illegal controlled substances, and illegal weapons.
1 26 b. "False compartment" means any box, container, space, or
1 27 enclosure that is intended or designed for use to conceal,
1 28 hide, or otherwise prevent discovery of contraband and that is
1 29 located within or attached to a vehicle, including but not
1 30 limited to any of the following:
1 31 (1) A false, altered, or modified fuel tank.
1 32 (2) Original factory equipment of a vehicle that is
1 33 modified, altered, or changed.
1 34 (3) A compartment, space, or box that is added to,
1 35 fabricated, made, or created from existing compartments,
2 1 spaces, or boxes within a vehicle.
2 2 c. "Vehicle" means a motor vehicle as defined in section
2 3 321.1, aircraft, recreational vehicle, or watercraft including
2 4 but not limited to a car, truck, bus, boat, ship, yacht,
2 5 vessel, or other means of conveyance, owned or operated by, or
2 6 rented, leased, or loaned to, a person.
2 7 HF 173
2 8 dea:rj/es/25